

LAGNIAPPE



Monthly Employee News

November 2016

The Dangers of Deep Frying Turkeys

By: Steve Ham, Lofton Safety Services

Thanksgiving and turkeys go hand-in-hand for many people throughout the U.S, but with that comes many dangers. Every year deep-fryer fires are responsible for 5 deaths, 60 injuries, the destruction of 900 homes, and more than \$15-million in property damage, according to the National Fire Protection Association. So before you stick your turkey in the fryer, check out these safety tips first:

- Safety starts days before. The turkey should be thawed in the refrigerator a few days before. NEVER fry a frozen turkey!
- Fryers should always be used outdoors, on a solid level surface and a safe distance away from buildings and flammable materials.
- NEVER use a fryer on a wooden deck, under a patio cover, in a garage or enclosed space.
- DO NOT overfill the fryer with cooking oil.
- Gently place the turkey into the oil, DO NOT drop. Even a small amount of cooking oil coming in contact with the burner can cause a large fire.
- NEVER leave the fryer unattended. The oil will continue to heat until it catches fire.
- Cooking without a thermometer can result in the oil heating to dangerous levels, which can become combustible above 350 degrees.
- NEVER let children or pets near the fryer when in use or after use as the oil remains hot for hours after.
- Use well-insulated potholders or oven mitts, wear long sleeves, and use safety goggles to protect from splatter.
- Keep a fire extinguisher nearby...just in case.
- NEVER use water to put out an oil fire. It will spread and cause considerable damage.

If you are unsure of deep frying a turkey on your own, contact your local grocery store or restaurant, or consider using an oil-less turkey fryer.

Wellness Reminder

By: Mary Dixon, Benefits Coordinator



Deadline for completing the wellness program is **November 30, 2016**. If you need more information, please contact the Benefits Department at benefits@loftonstaffing.com or 225-924-0200.

Work Ethics

By: Julie East, Corp. Marketing & Recruiting

What are work ethics anyway? Work ethics are not only how one feels about his or her job, but how one does his/her job. This involves attitude, behavior, respect, communication, and interaction, not just with one's employer, but also with those around you. Work ethics demonstrate many things about how a person truly is.

Essentially, work ethics break down to what one does or would do in a particular situation, what is right and acceptable, moral and above board, versus what is wrong, underhanded, or unethical. The Christian worldview holds fundamentally to two central work ethics—humility and the treatment of others. Treating others with decency and respect equate to the *Golden Rule*. People for the most part have a good work ethic. We should not only want to do, but *desire* to do the right thing in a given situation.

There are five fundamental qualities of a good work ethic: Integrity - Responsibility - Quality - Discipline - Teamwork.

Work ethics, such as integrity (not lying, cheating, and stealing), quality (doing a job well and valuing what one does), teamwork (having a sense of purpose and feeling/being a part of greater vision or plan), are vital to the success of you as a person, as well as in the overall success of the company. Philosophically, if one does not have proper work ethics, a person's conscience may be bothered. Having work ethics is something to aspire to. It is a fundamental building block of a happy and productive life.

What's Happening This Month

November 1

All Saints' Day

November 6

Daylight Saving Time Ends

November 8

Election Day

November 11

Veterans Day

November 24

Thanksgiving Day

"Happy Thanksgiving" from our Lofton family to yours.



Lofton offices will be closed on Thursday, Nov 24th & Friday Nov 25th for the Thanksgiving holidays.

Become a fan of **Lofton Staffing, Lofton Security, Lofton Energy, or Lofton Flex Med**. Stay on top of current job openings, get great tips on job hunting, and stay in contact with some of your Lofton friends!

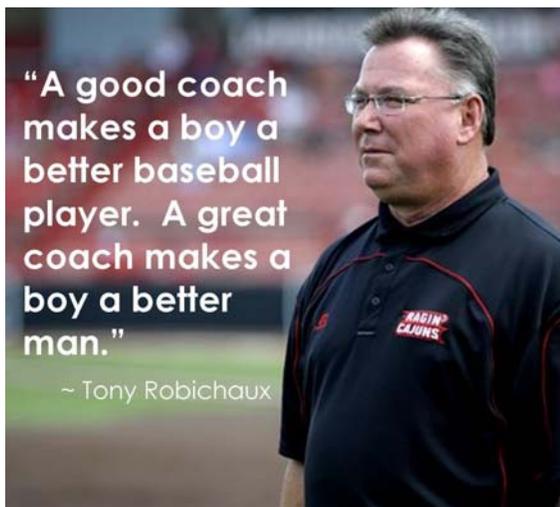


Learning from Coach Robichaux By: Glenda G. Lofton, Ph.D.

Recently Bret called to tell me that he had invited Tony Robichaux to speak at the monthly meeting of the men's group at The Bayou, his church in Lafayette. I immediately wanted to attend, but Bret reminded me that this was a men's group and promised to send me the handouts. Tony Robichaux, as most of you know, has been the head coach of the ULL Raging Cajuns Baseball Team for the past 22 seasons and is the all-time winningest coach in ULL history. On February 28, 2015 he became the 51st coach in NCAA Division I History to post 1000 career wins with a 6-5 victory over the Alabama Crimson Tide. (As an LSU fan, I especially liked his win over Bama. However, I was impressed that Bama's coach presented him an autographed baseball in recognition of his accomplishments.)

Given his record as a coach, I was not surprised to learn that he had spoken recently to the Baseball Coaches Associations in Texas, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Alabama. I was surprised, however, to hear how he introduced himself: "I'm a baseball coach. That's what I do, but it's not who I am." To his players he has a similar message, "You are a baseball player, but what matters is who you are as a man." Sadly, he notes, we have begun to glorify athletics and the athlete. Nationwide, moral courage and leadership are at an all-time low. Kids growing up today lack hard work and discipline. They are "heavy" in the number of games played but "weak" in skills. They are "rich" in cash and "poor" in character; 74% cheat in college. Suicide is up 5000% since 1950, and addiction is at and all time high. Too many parents let their

kids teach them. God gave us children to be taught. Success in baseball and in life requires hard work and discipline.



These findings led Coach Robichaux to focus on the academic, spiritual, social, and athletic development of his players-- skills which must be taught and modeled. Training in "servant leadership" is a priority with an emphasis on (1) God, (2) Humility, (3) Family, (4) Sobriety, and (5) Baseball. When new players check in, he asks them to read the Bible to see what it says about baseball. Baseball, they concluded, is not mentioned. However, one player said, "Maybe it's mentioned. Adam stole first, Eve stole second, and God threw them out." (As a teacher who worked with students on creativity, I think I appreciated that comment more than the coach.)

At ULL one day each week, Motivational Monday or Wisdom Wednesday, is devoted to building men and developing servant leaders. To be servant leaders, players must know the way, be willing to go the way, and then show someone the way. A servant leader serves the person above you; shares with the person on the side of you; and lifts up the person below you. Leadership myths are identified such as, "Being important makes me a leader." The truth is "importance deals with ego; service deals with leadership." Individual goals related to attitude, approach, intensity, toughness, aggression, and competition are identified, and hurdles to success are explored such as sin, temptation, addiction, discouragement, rejection, critics, fear, failure, courage, change, convenience, and you. In all things, players are reminded that God comes first and to remain humble--with no ego (edging God Out).

Coach Robichaux concluded his talk with what God might say to him one day: "I sent you 600 boys. What did you do with them? Did you talk to them about Me? Did you teach what a real man is? Did you help them become servant leaders?" My response will be what has guided my life: "A good coach makes a boy a better baseball player. A great coach makes a boy a better man."

At Lofton Staffing we too are guided by the principle that we are all called to serve. What will we say when God asks us to give an account of our stewardship?

Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade: The Beginnings By: Julie East, Corp. Marketing & Recruiting

The annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade has been a tradition in my family for as long as I can remember. The smell of the turkey baking in the oven, me curled up in a blanket watching those fantastic floats thinking to myself, "Why aren't they throwing anything?"

The first Macy's parade was held in 1924 at their flagship store on 34th Street in New York City as an advertising gimmick to entice sales during the Christmas season. More than 250,000 people attended the inaugural parade. The Macy's employees dressed in various costumes and decorated their own floats. The floats were pulled by horses until 1939. They had professional bands and even had live animals borrowed from the Central Park zoo.

It wasn't until 1927 that Macy's introduced their first giant balloon character, Felix the Cat, creat-



Tony Frederick Sarg, Marionette maker, building Felix the Cat.

ed by Marionette maker Tony Frederick Sarg and produced by the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, to replace the live animals. At that time, Macy's would release the balloons into the air after the parade was over and

would offer a reward for their return. It was not very successful. Now, the balloons are deflated at the end of the parade.

At the end of the first parade, and has been the tradition ever since, Santa Claus is welcomed into Herald Square, which officially introduces the Christmas holiday shopping season.

Today, more than 3.5 million people flock the streets of Manhattan to see the parade in-person and over 50 million watch it live on television. It takes over 4,000 volunteers to put on the yearly parade including 30 parade floats, 1,500 dancers and cheerleaders, 750 clowns, several marching bands from across the U.S. and over 8,000 participants in all.